

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph at page 1, lines 4-7, as follows:

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/268,997,  
filed on October 11, 2002, and is based upon and claims the benefit of priority from the prior  
Japanese Patent Application No. 2001-316824, filed on [[Oct.]] October 15, 2001, the entire  
contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.